

1 1. A flat panel display comprising:  
2 a tiled array of display elements wherein each  
3 display element has a front surface that emits light and a  
4 back surface that does not substantially emit light;  
5 a seam between adjacent display elements; and  
6 a strap attached to said back surfaces over the  
7 seams between the display elements.

1 2. The display of claim 1 including a plurality of  
2 straps over a plurality of seams.

1 sub 2 3. The display of claim 2 wherein the plurality of  
2 straps are attached to the back surfaces so that the straps  
3 are perpendicular to each other.

1 4. The display of claim 3 wherein the perpendicular  
2 straps are attached to each other.

1 5. The display of claim 4 wherein the perpendicular  
2 straps are attached to the frame.

1 6. The display of claim 1 including a frame.

1 7. The display of claim 2 including an optical,  
2 integrator attached to the front surfaces of the display  
3 elements.

1           8.    The display of claim 7 wherein the plurality of  
2    straps redistribute stress from the optical integrator to  
3    the straps.

sub <sup>b3</sup> 9.    The display of claim 8 wherein the plurality of  
2    straps redistribute bending stress as tension in the  
3    straps.

sub <sup>b4</sup> 10.   The display of claim 8 wherein the plurality of  
2    straps redistribute stress as compression in the straps.

sub <sup>b5</sup> 11.   A method comprising:  
2           arranging an array of display elements to form a  
3    flat-panel display, the display elements each having a  
4    front surface that emits light and a back surface that does  
5    not substantially emit light; and  
6           securing a strap across seams between the  
7    adjacent display elements.

1           12.   The method of claim 11 including securing a  
2    plurality of straps across seams so that said straps are  
3    perpendicular to each other.

1 13. The method of claim 11 including securing an  
2 optical integrator to the front surface of the display  
3 elements.

1 14. The method of claim 13 including redistributing a  
2 stress placed on the optical integrator to the strap.

1 15. The method of claim 14 wherein redistributing the  
2 stress includes redistributing the stress as tension in the  
3 strap.

1 16. The method of claim 14 wherein redistributing the  
2 stress includes redistributing the stress as compression in  
3 the strap.

1 17. A method comprising:  
2 configuring a flat-panel display from an array of  
3 display elements, each of the display elements having a  
4 front surface that emits light and a back surface that does  
5 not substantially emit light;  
6 fastening straps across seams between back  
7 surfaces of the adjacent display elements; and  
8 redistributing a stress placed on a transparent  
9 front surface of a flat-panel display to said straps.

1           18. The method of claim 17 wherein redistributing a  
2 stress includes redistributing a bending stress on said  
3 front surface as compression in the straps.

1           19. The method of claim 17 wherein redistributing a  
2 stress includes redistributing a bending stress as tension  
3 in the straps.

1           20. The method of claim 17 including adhesively  
2 securing said straps to said display in a grid pattern.